

What is claimed is:

1. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner, comprising:

a pressurized container of at least one chemical addable to the air conditioner,

said container having a first valve;

an actuator coupled to said first valve that selectively opens said first valve;

a hose having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said actuator and said second end coupleable to a service port of the air conditioner;

a T-connector disposed in said hose having an inlet in communication with said first end of said hose, a first outlet, a second outlet in communication with said second end of said hose, and a check valve; and

a pressure gauge connected to said first outlet of said T-connector and in communication with said second end of said hose,

wherein when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said actuator is not activated, said pressure gauge measures a pressure of the air conditioner, and when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said actuator is activated, said at least one chemical is released from said pressurized container and into the air conditioner via said hose and the service port.

2. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 1, wherein said check valve is biased closed to enable flow in from said second outlet to said first outlet to enable communication between the service port and said gauge.

3. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 2, wherein when said actuator is activated, said pressurized chemical released from said container overcomes the bias of said check valve and exits said T-connector via said second outlet.
4. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 3, wherein said check valve comprises:
  - a stopper seatable on a shoulder; and
  - a spring biasing said stopper onto said shoulder to close said valve.
5. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 1, said first end of said hose being permanently connected to said actuator.
6. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 5, said actuator being permanently connected to said container.
7. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 1, said first end of said hose being removably connected to said actuator.
8. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 7, said actuator being removably connected to said container.

9. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 1, wherein said container is an aerosol can and said first valve includes a valve stem.
10. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 9, said actuator comprising:
- a housing press-fittable onto a shoulder of said pressurized container; and
  - a button attached to said housing in a cantilever matter, said button including a fluid flow path in communication with said valve stem and said first end of said hose.
11. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 3, said hose further comprising:
- a first section of hose connected between said actuator and said inlet of said T-connector;
- and
- a second section of hose connected between said second outlet of said T-connector and a coupler connectable to the automobile air conditioner service port.
12. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 11, said T-connector further comprising a main body from which said inlet and said second outlet project, said inlet including a first stem rotatably disposed in one end of said main body, said second outlet including a second stem rotatably disposed in an opposite end of said main body,
- wherein said main body and said gauge are rotatable with respect to said hose.

13. A portable device for measuring an amount of refrigerant in an automobile air conditioner and adding additional refrigerant therein in an after-market environment, comprising:

a pressurized container of at least refrigerant addable to the air conditioner, said container having a first valve;

an actuator coupled to said first valve that selectively opens said first valve;

a hose having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said actuator and said second end coupleable to a service port of the air conditioner;

a T-connector disposed in said hose having an inlet in communication with said first end of said hose, a first outlet, a second outlet in communication with said second end of said hose, and a check valve; and

a pressure gauge connected to said first outlet of said T-connector and in communication with said second end of said hose,

wherein when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said actuator is not activated, said pressure gauge measures a pressure of the refrigerant in the air conditioner, and when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said actuator is activated, refrigerant is released from said pressurized container, overcomes a bias of said check valve, and enters into the air conditioner via said hose and the service port.

14. A device for measuring an amount of refrigerant in an automobile air conditioner and adding additional refrigerant therein according to Claim 13, wherein said container is an aerosol can and said first valve includes a valve stem, said actuator comprising:

a housing press-fittable onto a shoulder of said pressurized container; and

a button attached to said housing in a cantilever matter, said button including a fluid flow path in communication with said valve stem and said first end of said hose.

15. A device for measuring an amount of existing refrigerant in an automobile air conditioner and adding additional refrigerant thereinto according to Claim 14, wherein a user switches from measuring existing refrigerant in the automobile air conditioner to adding additional refrigerant by depressing said button.

16. A device for measuring an amount of refrigerant in an automobile air conditioner and adding additional refrigerant thereinto according to Claim 15, wherein a user switches back from adding additional refrigerant to measuring existing refrigerant in the automobile air conditioner by releasing said button.

17. A device for measuring an amount of refrigerant in an automobile air conditioner and adding additional refrigerant thereinto according to Claim 16, wherein all of said container, said actuator, said hose, and said pressure gauge are integrally attached.

18. A T-connector junction adapted to charge an automobile air conditioner in an after-market environment, comprising:

a main body having a first passage in communication with and receiving a source of refrigerant, a second passage, and a third passage connectable to an automobile air conditioner

service port, at least one of said first and third passages including a stem rotatably disposed in and projecting from said main body; and

a check valve in said T-connector at a proximal end of said first passage,

wherein said check valve is biased closed to enable flow in from said third passage to said second passage, and wherein when fluid is introduced from said first passage at a pressure greater than the biasing pressure of said check valve, the fluid from said first passage passes through said check valve and exits said T-connector via said third passage.

19. A T-connector junction according to Claim 18, further comprising a pressure gauge connected to said second passage, wherein when said check valve is closed, said pressure gauge measures a fluid pressure of said third passage.

20. A T-connector junction according to Claim 19, said stem being included in said first passage, wherein when said main body is rotated relative to said stem, said pressure gauge turns with said main body.

21. A T-connector junction according to Claim 19, said at least one stem including a first stem rotatably disposed in and projecting from said main body in said first passage, and a second stem rotatably disposed in and projecting from said main body in said third passage, wherein when said main body is rotated relative to said stems, said pressure gauge turns with said main body.

22. A T-connector junction according to Claim 18, wherein said check valve comprises:
- a stopper seatable on a shoulder; and
  - a spring biasing said stopper onto said shoulder to close said valve.
23. A T-connector junction according to Claim 22, further comprising a pressure gauge connected to said second passage, wherein when said check valve is closed, said pressure gauge measures a fluid pressure of said third passage.
24. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner, said device connectable to a valved aerosol pressurized container of at least one chemical addable to the air conditioner, comprising:
- an actuator coupled to the container valve that selectively opens the container valve;
  - a hose having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to said actuator and said second end coupleable to a service port of the air conditioner;
  - a T-connector disposed in said hose having an inlet in communication with said first end of said hose, a first outlet, a second outlet in communication with said second end of said hose, and a check valve; and
  - a pressure gauge connected to said first outlet of said T-connector and in communication with said second end of said hose,
- wherein when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said actuator is not activated, said pressure gauge measures a pressure of the air conditioner, and when said second end is coupled to an automobile air conditioner service port and said

actuator is activated, said at least one chemical is released from said pressurized container and into the air conditioner via said hose and the service port.

25. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 24, wherein said actuator is adapted to snap onto a shoulder of an aerosol container.

26. A device for servicing an automobile air conditioner according to Claim 24, wherein said actuator includes a threaded nozzle.